

FWIO Acts on ACWW Conference 2001 Resolutions

The following resolutions were passed at the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario (FWIO) Annual Meeting in response to the resolutions and recommendations passed at the Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW) Conference in 2001 in Hamilton, Ontario. To review the original resolutions passed by ACWW, refer to page viii of the Fall 2001 issue of the *Home & Country* newsletter.

Re: the ACWW Resolution on Home Economics

- Be it resolved that the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario (FWIO) urgently request the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of the Family Affairs to ensure that Home Economics courses, both practical and theoretical, are a mandatory component of the Ontario school curriculum.

Re: the ACWW Resolution on the Trafficking of Women

- Be it resolved that FWIO strongly request the Federal Government to take appropriate measures to address the root factors that encourage the trafficking of women and children for prostitution and other forms of commercialized sex, forced marriages and/or forced labour, in order to eliminate these practices.
- Be it resolved that FWIO strongly request the United Nations to take appropriate measures to address the root factors that encourage the trafficking of women and children for prostitution and other forms of commercialized sex, forced marriages and/or forced labour, in order to eliminate these practices.

Re: the ACWW Resolution on the Regulation and Education on Enhanced Foods

- Be it resolved that FWIO strongly urge all governments, federal and provincial, to enact legislation which will ensure that all research into enhanced food products will be done at arms length and all results will be fully published in a timely fashion in order that consumers may make an informed, educated choice when buying food products.

Re: the ACWW Resolution on Genetic Engineering

- Be it resolved that FWIO call for public accountability of genetic engineering, also

referred to as genetic modification. We urge the United Nations to immediately form an international committee whose sole purpose would be to determine the risks, consequences and impact of genetically modified seeds, plants, food, soil, animals and human beings, and to set forth public policy recommendations to address genetic engineering as a worldwide ethical, political, social and economic issue.

Re: the ACWW Resolution on BSE & VCD

- Be it resolved that FWIO urgently request the Federal Government to ban the trade of all animals, feed and other products of bovine origin from countries where Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) has been found within the last twelve months.

Re: the ACWW Resolution on HIV / AIDS

- Be it resolved that FWIO strongly urge the Federal Government to enact legislation which will ensure that adequate resources to provide local access to HIV / AIDS counseling, health and welfare facilities and services are available to all persons including those living in rural areas.

Re: the ACWW Recommendation on a Pension Plan for Care Givers

- Be it resolved that FWIO strongly urges the Federal Government to recognize the financial value of full-time work done at home to

guarantee equality between the work done outside the home and the work of caring at home for the young, disabled and the old - to be recognized by the provision of pension rights.

Re: the ACWW Recommendation on Malaria

- Be it resolved that FWIO strongly urge the Federal Government to financially support Canadian scientists researching the prevention and treatment of mosquito-borne diseases.

Re: the ACWW Recommendation on Parenthood and Family Life

- Be it resolved that FWIO urge the Government of Ontario, the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Family Affairs to consider the use of television, whether closed circuit or public, to provide Home Economics and Family Life Courses as a mandatory component of the school curriculum.
- Be it resolved that FWIO strongly urge the Federal Government to provide Home Economics and Family Life Skills through sponsored education to the brightest youth in the countries of the Developing World in order that they may return home and educate others.



Lobbying Coordinator's Report - Ruth Kennedy

So far, my time has been spent writing letters to go along with the resolutions passed at the FWIO Annual Meeting in January. In addition, with the help of Maritta Saharinen of Kars WI, Carleton District, I made a presentation to the Ministry of Agriculture and Food. The brief on the Stage 2 Draft Nutrient Management Regulations and Protocols was presented in Carleton Place on February 3, 2003.

The brief stressed the need for province-wide criteria and standards to be developed before allowing bio solids to be spread on agricultural land. More research must be done to determine the content of non-agricultural nutrients in order to protect our health and the environment. This was the follow-up to an earlier resolution banning the use of bio solids "until province-wide standards can ensure safe usage."

I also urge Branches to lobby their MPPs regarding the following resolution passed at the Annual Meeting:

- That FWIO strongly urge the Ministry of Justice and the Attorney General to enact legislation to amend the Gaming Control Act, 1992, so as to enable volunteer organizations to conduct raffles and draws, which net an annual income of up to \$5,000, under a separate set of guidelines.

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